

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 INRE-00 ICAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00
CIAE-00 INR-10 L-03 ACDA-12 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15
SP-02 TRSE-00 /061 W
-----127413 261734Z /43

O R 261707Z MAY 78 ZFF 4
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6564
SECDEF WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO USMISSION USNATO
CINCUSAFE
HQ 3AF RAF MILDENHALL
USNMR SHAPE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 08412

DEFENSE ALSO FOR ASD/ISA MCGIFFERT: ASD/PA ROSS; CSAF;
AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY AF CHAYES

E. O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: UK MPOL MILI NATO
SUBJECT: RAF GREENHAM COMMON

REF: A) STATE 133908; B) LONDON 8192; C) LONDON
8213

1. WELLBELOVED, PARLIAMENTARY UNDER SECRETARY FOR THE
RAF, INFORMED COMMONS DURING THE DEBATE ON THE ADJOURN-
MENT OF THE HOUSE THAT THE GOVERNMENT AGREES THAT KC-135
TANKERS SHOULD NOT BE BASED AT RAF GREENHAM COMMON. HE
/ID NOT REPEAT NOT MAKE PUBLIC HMG'S FINAL DECISION
ABOUT ACCEPTING RAF FAIRFORD.

2. WELLBELOVED TOLD THE HOUSE THAT FINAL DECISION
WOULD BE REACHED AFTER A MEETING TO BE HELD IN MOD NEXT
WEEK. HE SAID IT WOULD BE HIS HOPE TO THEN MAKE AN
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ANNOUNCEMENT THE FOLLOWING WEEK. IN THIS CONNECTION,
WELLBELOVED STRESSED THAT DECISION "IS A MOST COMPLICATED
AND DIFFICULT MATTER" AND IT WOULD BE WRONG "FOR US TO
RUSH INTO TAKING A DECISION UNTIL ALL THE RELEVANT DATA
HAS BEEN FULLY AND CAREFULLY CONSIDERED." HE ALSO
ASSURED THE HOUSE THAT MPS AND THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES
CONCERNED WOULD BE INFORMED "BEFORE AN ANNOUNCEMENT IS

MADE." ALSO, WELLBELOVED TOLD THE HOUSE "FEARS THAT LOCAL VIEWS WOULD NOT BE HEARD ARE GROUNDLESS." THE MOD, HE SAID, WILL FOLLOW DOE CIRCULAR 7/77 REGARDING CONSULTATION WITH LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITIES ON DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS.

3. COMMENT: BOTH WELLBELOVED AND MCNAIR-WILSON TOLD POL-MIL ATTACHE AFTER THE DEBATE THAT THEY HOPE THE STATEMENT ON GREENHAM COMMON WILL DISSUADE THE TWO LADIES FROM MAKING THEIR TRIP. MCNAIR-WILSON COMMENTED TO WELLBELOVED THAT WHILE HE HAD "NO CONTROL" OVER THE CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE HE WOULD URGE STRONGLY THAT THEY NOW DISBAND AND CANCEL TRIP PLANS.

4. WELLBELOVED IN HIS STATEMENT TO THE HOUSE MADE IT CLEAR THAT NOW THE USG HAS GIVEN HMG ITS VIEWS, "THE MATTER NOW RESTS ENTIRELY IN THE HANDS OF THE HMG . . ." EMBASSY DOES NOT PROPOSE, THEREFORE, TO CONTACT THE CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE. WE HAVE ASKED MOD TO DO SO.

5. WE WILL REPORT DETAILS OF DISCUSSION WITH MOD OF REF A IN SEPTTEL.

STREATOR

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